

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION & WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE
Monthly Meeting, December 3rd, 2020, 10:00 A.M

Minutes for December 3rd 2020

SSCWQC Members Called In

Kevin Pope, Sherman Lundy, Colleen Miller Patti Ruff, Dale Farnham, Margaret McQuown, Steve Hofmann

DSCWQ Staff Called In

Vince Sitzmann, Nicky Gubbels, Kate Bussanmas, Jake Hansen

Partners Called In

John Whitaker (CDI), Dennis Carney (CDI), Steve Hopkins (DNR), Allen Bonini (DNR), Jon Hubbert (NRCS)

Guests

Charles Isenhardt, Ronald Lindbolm

Other Called In

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

2020-42 Lundy moved to approve the agenda; Farnham seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2020-43 Lundy moved to approve the November 5th, 2020 meeting minutes; Ruff seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Subcommittee Report

Bureau Chief Reports (Reports on file)

Field Services – Bussanmas

Myers was unable to attend meeting. See report for details;

Mines and Minerals – Sitzmann

Sitzmann highlighted the following topics in his report;

- Two projects in Mahaska County are now seeded and mulched.
- Mines and Minerals will be sharing 2-3 interns with Field Services.

Water Resources - Hansen

Hansen highlighted the following topics in his report;

- There are 99 CREP wetlands in Iowa, and we are currently making plans to celebrate the completion of the 100th site in 2021.
- Hansen will be attending the next WRCC meeting next week on Thursday, December 10th.

Director's Report - Kozak

Bussanmas highlighted the following items in Kozak's report;

- Velvet Buckingham was nominated as the November Employee of the Month.
- 2021 WQI Cover Crop program sign up is now open and will close on January 15th.

Partner Reports (Reports on file)

Conservation Districts of Iowa - Whitaker

- Conservation Day on the Hill is tentatively to be held on February 1st.
- Due to the pandemic the planning of Spring Regionals has been postponed.

Engineers –

No Report Given

Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Hopkins

Hopkins highlighted the following topics in his report;

- DNR has converted 2 watershed coordinator positions to full time.
- There currently is one Watershed Coordinator position open. It will be open to applicants until December 15th.
- The Silver Creek watershed was accepted as a 319 Nonpoint Source Success Story.

Iowa State Extension – Benning

Benning was not able to attend the meeting. See reports for details;

Leopold Center – Farnham

Nothing to Report.

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Hubbert

Hubbert highlighted the following items in his report;

- We are waiting for results from the national review of the overarching agreements for the 3 RCPP awards received this year.
- Currently there is one WFPO for Polk County that is being executed and NRCS has awarded ones to Dubuque and Clarke County to be in place by January as well.

Business

- SSCWQC Research and Demonstration Grant Updates - Gubbels
 - Gubbels provided an update on current grants.

Subcommittee Reports

- SWM Subcommittee – CDI Resolutions
 - Lundy made a motion to support CDI Resolutions 1, 4, 8, and 10. Hoffman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- DO Subcommittee – 5 Year Plan Review
 - Subcommittee was unable to obtain a quorum. Meeting will be rescheduled.

SWCD Vacancies / Appointments

SSCWQC Member Reports

- Lundy- Things are looking good; overall a good year.
- Farnham- Weather has been great. We have been seeing some tiling and anhydrous being put down. Have some concerns about corn next year.
- McQuown- We could use some rain. Harvest is pretty much done in the area. Surprisingly farmers markets are still happening and doing well.
- Miller- There has been nice weather so harvest and field work are done. We however are still in drought conditions.
- Hofmann- We have been having good weather, and have seen a good harvest this year. We are seeing prices going up as well.
- Pope- Harvest is wrapping up. We are seeing a lot of anhydrous going on due to early harvest.

Pope adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

Kevin Pope, SSCWQC Chair

Susan Kozak, DSCWQ Division Director